



CFC Newsletter

September 2006

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Legislation
- City of Carson Film Ordinance
- Fire Season Update
- Board Meeting
- Film Location News
- Education Issue
- Articles

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On August 31st the California Legislature ended its legislative session for the year. Unfortunately, the final outcome for AB777, our Film Production Tax Incentive bill (Nuñez – D) was not positive. During the final two months of this session, there seemed to be renewed interest in our bill as part of a larger tax package. In the end, the opposing sides couldn't come to an agreement on the elements or the price of this tax package.

Enormous thanks to all of the individuals and organizations (including: IATSE, Teamsters, California Labor Federation, Screen Actors Guild, DGA, PGA, AFTRA, CFC board members, Studios, Valley Industry Commerce Association, IFTA, CCA, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, California Chamber of Commerce, and FLICS members) who lent support and committed so much time over the past two years, working to convince our Sacramento legislators that something must be done to keep productions working in California. Despite all of our efforts, there simply wasn't the will in Sacramento to take action at this time.

NEW PROPOSED FILM ORDINANCE IN CARSON

In August, we were alerted that there was new proposed film ordinance headed for a vote within the Carson City Council. The CFC (thanks to help from Jim Fitzpatrick of the MPAA, Michael Walbrecht of Warner Bros., and Ed Duffy from Teamsters Local 399) was able to get the vote delayed so that our suggested amendments could be discussed with the Carson City Manager. Thankfully, Carson's City Manager understands the benefits that filming can bring to their local community and agreed to the suggested revisions. This, more "film friendly" ordinance will be presented to the Carson City Council on September 19th. This is one successful example of the CFC's efforts to make California's local cities more film friendly.

FIRE SEASON UPDATE

The Emerald fire in San Bernardino County off Hwy 38 near Yucaipa is expected to be fully contained by the end of the week. Another fire in Trinity County has burned 26,000 acres and is 60% contained. Red Flag alerts have been issued throughout the state over the past month. Since fire conditions change rapidly, filmmakers must remember to contact the CFC directly in order to determine current fire conditions and the availability of Fire Safety Officers and CHP Officers to monitor their filming activities. To view current fire information please go to:

www.fire.ca.gov

CFC QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING UPDATE

The next CFC Board meeting is scheduled for September 8th at 1:30 and will be held at the Screen Actors Guild, located at 5757 Wilshire Blvd. (East of Fairfax). Meetings will be held in the James Cagney conference room.

For more information, please contact Joseph Cruz, 323/860-2960 x170.

California Film Commission
7080 Hollywood Blvd.
Suite 900
Hollywood, CA 90028
323-860-2690
www.film.ca.gov

Save the Date:

CFC Board Meeting
Friday, Sept. 8, 2006
1:30 – 3:30
Screen Actors Guild
5757 Wilshire Blvd.

California Film Commission
7080 Hollywood Blvd.
Suite 900
Hollywood, CA 90028
323-860-2690
www.film.ca.gov

NEW OR IMPROVED FILM LOCATIONS

One of the CFC's strongest partnerships is with the State Parks Department. The Los Angeles State Historic Park, previously known as "The Cornfields" has recently been made available for filming and photography. This 32 acre site is located 150 feet from the L.A. River near downtown Los Angeles. The park is not yet open to the public. Some productions have already utilized this location because of its expansive views of downtown. The link below will provide more details about this unique location including various maps and a concept plan for the park.

http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=22272

EDUCATIONAL ISSUE

Several productions that had plans to shoot within a number of National Forests have had difficulty securing the necessary approvals in time. When a company wishes to shoot within the National Forest Service they must allow ample time (a minimum of 72 hours) to get their permits processed. A full week is recommended. In addition, when filming on a state owned road within a National Forest, productions must always secure the corresponding National Forest Service permit in addition to the CFC's Caltrans permit. For information about obtaining National Forest Service permits please contact:

Special Use Administrator, Loreigh Brannan at 661-245-3731 x229 or lbrannan@fs.fed.us. Ms. Brannan works in the Mt. Pinos Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest. She handles requests covering Ojai, San Lucia, and Monterey.

NEWS ARTICLES

8/06 - Canadian Business Online - Northern overexposure
8/27/06 - Palm Springs-The Press-Enterprise - Getting desert set for action
8/28/06 - Santa Clarita - Bill would give filmmakers tax breaks
8/29/06 - Times Herald - Is mid-Hudson becoming Hollywood North
9/06 - P3update - Spotlight on California
9/8/06 - Board Agenda